

Mississippi Military Department 2012 Annual Report





The Adjutant General of Mississippi Major General Augustus L. Collins

The Honorable Phil Bryant
Governor of Mississippi
Mississippi State Capitol
Jackson, Mississippi

Dear Governor Bryant,

The 2012 Annual Report of the Mississippi Military Department details, with pride, the outstanding stewardship your National Guard has demonstrated with state and federal appropriations. Our Soldiers and Airmen are the best this nation has to offer, and I am extremely proud of each of them for their service to our state and nation.

In 2012, approximately 3,000 Soldiers and Airmen deployed overseas in support of contingency operations, mostly in Afghanistan. Our men and women continue to train for wartime missions, but remain steady to support domestic missions and response to state emergencies as well.

Our aviation units supported the Department of Homeland Security's Southwest Border Mission and the State Medical Response System exercise in North Mississippi. Hurricane season brought Hurricane Isaac to Mississippi shores in August with 1,500 Soldiers and Airmen answering the call.

We met many challenges in 2012, the dedication and professionalism of our forces prevailed as they have done for the past 214 years. This report provides a look at how we are doing, a few of our many accomplishments, and the exceptional skills, training, and devotion of our Guard men and women.

I sincerely thank you for your untiring support, and taking the opportunity to review our efforts in 2012.

AUGUSTUS L. COLLINS
Major General, MSNG
The Adjutant General of Mississippi



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A Unique Dual Mission



STATE MISSION:

To provide trained and disciplined forces for domestic emergencies or as otherwise required by state LAWS.

FEDERAL MISSION:

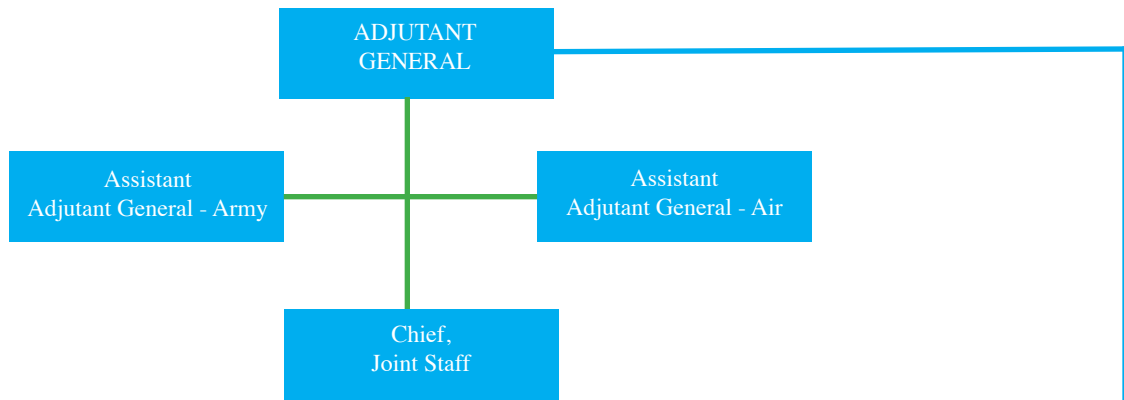
To maintain properly-trained and equipped units available for prompt mobilization for war, national emergency, or as otherwise needed.



The Joint Force Headquarters is a key element in the Department of Defense's transformational efforts to strengthen our capability to conduct joint operations. In Mississippi, Maj. Gen. Augustus L. Collins, the Adjutant General, commands approximately 12,500 Soldiers and Airmen.

The Mississippi National Guard has readiness centers, Air National Guard bases, and operational and training facilities located in 71 of the Magnolia state's 82 counties. Training is a routine progression for the Soldiers and Airmen of the Mississippi National Guard. Our troops are among the best in the National Guard and have proven themselves as true professionals.

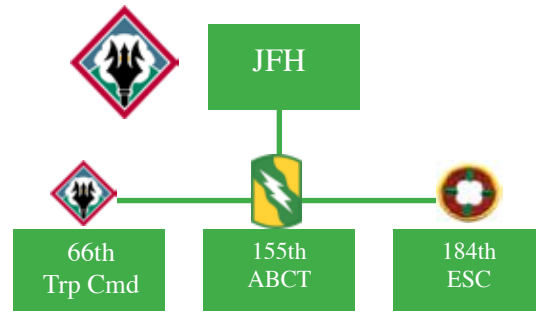
During Fiscal Year 2012, there were approximately 2,000 Soldiers from the MSARNG mobilized in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn. The number of deployments have decreased significantly since departure from operations in Iraq, and continuing as we bring troops home from Afghanistan.



Chaplain
 Safety
 State Surgeon
 Human Resources
 Environmental
 Historical
 Recruiting
 Judge Advocate
 Inspector General
 Public Affairs
 Aviation
 Facilities Management



ARNG Major Commands



ANG Major Bases



Hurricane Isaac leaves Mississippi roads and highways difficult to travel, but the Mississippi National Guard was a welcome site by Gulf Coast residents in August.

Mississippi Air National Guard



Headquarters, Mississippi
Air National Guard, Jackson



Headquarters, 172nd Airlift Wing,
Flowood, MS

- 172nd Financial Management Services
- 172nd Operations Group
 - 172nd Operations Support Flight
 - 183rd Airlift Squadron
 - 183rd Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
 - 172nd Aerial Port Flight
 - 172nd Airlift Control Squadron
- 172nd Logistics Group
 - 172nd Aircraft Generation Squadron
 - 172nd Logistics Squadron
 - 172nd Maintenance Squadron
- 172nd Support Group
 - 172nd Civil Engineer Squadron
 - 172nd Mission Support Flight
 - 172nd Security Forces Squadron
 - 172nd Services Squadron
 - 172nd Medical Squadron



186th Air Refueling Wing,
Meridian, MS

- 186th Operations Group
 - 186th Air Refueling Squadron
 - 186th Operations Support Flight
 - 186th Maint. Operations Squadron
- 186th Maintenance Group
 - 186th Medical Squadron
 - 186th Aircraft Maint. Squadron
 - 186th Logistics Readiness Squadron
 - 186th Maintenance Squadron
 - 186th Mission Support Flight
 - 186th Civil Engineer Squadron
 - 186th Communications Squadron
- 186th Mission Support Group
 - 186th Security Forces Squadron
 - 186th Services Flight
- 248th Air Traffic Control Squadron
- 238th Air Support Operations Squad.



Combat Readiness Training
Center, Gulfport, MS

- 255th Air Control Squadron
- 209th Civil Engineer Squadron

Mississippi Army National Guard



JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS

41st Army Band, Jackson
102nd Public Affairs Det (-), Jackson
Recruiting & Retention Battalion, Jackson
47th Civil Support Det. (WMD), Jackson
MSARNG Medical Command, Jackson
Det 1, MSARNG Med Cmd, Grenada
Det 2, MSARNG Med Cmd, Camp Shelby
Det 16, OSA Command, Jackson
1984th Contracting Team, Jackson
1108th TASMG, Gulfport
Company I (-), 185th Aviation, Gulfport
Army National Guard Training Site, Camp McCain
Joint Forces Training Center, Camp Shelby
HQ, 154th Regiment (RTI) Camp Shelby
1st Infantry Training Battalion, Camp Shelby
3rd NCO Academy, Camp Shelby
4th Armor Training Battalion, Camp Shelby
OCS Training Company, Camp Shelby
Combat Arms Training Company, Camp Shelby
2nd Ordinance Training Battalion, Camp Shelby
Medical Battalion Training Site, Camp Shelby



66th TROOP COMMAND, Jackson

Special Operations Det. South, Jackson
HQ, 210th Financial Management Battalion, Jackson
220th Finance Det., Jackson
230th Finance Det., Jackson
HQ, 1st Bn, 204th Air Defense Artillery, Newton
HB, 1-204th ADA Bn, Newton
Btry A, 1-204th ADA Bn, Bay Springs
Btry B, 1-204th ADA Bn, Forest
Btry C, 1-204th ADA Bn, Morton
Co D, 1-204th ADA Bn, Newton
168th Engr. Group, Vicksburg
HQ, 223rd Engineer Bn, West Point
HHC, 223rd Eng Bn, West Point
FSC, 223rd Eng Bn, Aberdeen
288th Eng Co, Houston
289th Vert Const Co, Bruce
Det 1, 289th Vert Const Co, Water Valley
858th Horz Const Co, Calhoun City
Det 1, 858th Horz Const Co, Okolona
HQ, 890th Engr Bn, Gulfport
HSC, 890th Engr Bn, Gulfport
FSC, 890th Engr Bn, Gulfport
230th Engr Det (Concrete), Purvis
231st Surv-Design TM, Gulfport
250th Engr Det (Asphalt), Purvis
251st Quarry, Lumberton

287th MAC, Lucedale
857th Horiz Co (-), Picayune
Det 1, 857th Horiz Co (-), Wiggins
859th Vert Co, Pascagoula
Det 1, 859th Vert Co, Richton

HHC, 185th TAB, Jackson
2-185th AOD, Southaven
Det 7, HHC 1-111th Avn, Meridian
Co B (-), 1-111th Avn, Meridian
Det 2, Co D, 1-111th Avn, Meridian
Det 2, Co E, 1-111th Avn, Meridian
Det 1, HHT, 1-230th ACS, Tupelo
Trp A, 1-230th ACS, Tupelo
Det 1, Trp E, 1-230th ACS, Tupelo
Det 1, Trp F, 1-230th ACS, Tupelo
Det 1, Trp G, 1-230th ACS, Tupelo
Det 1, HHC, 1-151st Avn, Tupelo
Co C, 1-151st Avn, Tupelo
Det 1, Co D, HHC, 1-151st Avn, Tupelo
Det 1, Co E, 1-151st Avn, Tupelo
Det 2, E Trp, 1-230th ACS, Tupelo
Det 1, Co B, 834th CS, Tupelo
Co C (-), 1-114th Avn Bn, Jackson
HQ, 1-185th Assault, Tupelo
HHC (-), 1-185th Aslt, Tupelo
Co A, 1-185th Aslt, Jackson
Co D, 1-185th Aslt, Jackson
Co E, 1-185th Aslt, Jackson
HQ Det (-) 2-20th Special Forces Grp, Jackson
AUG, TDA, HQ, 2-20th SFC, Jackson
Det 1, HQ, 2-20th SFC, Grenada
Co C, 2-20th SFG, Grenada
Spt Co, (Det 1), 2-20th SFG, Jackson



184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Laurel

Det 1, 184th Sustainment Cmd, Hattiesburg
114th Army Liaison Team, Greenville
31st Support Det (ROC) (ASG), Jackson
HD, 112th Military Police Bn, Canton
113th MP Co, Brandon
Det 1, 113th MP Co (-), Mendenhall
114th MP Co, Clinton
HQ, 298th Corps Spt Bn, Philadelphia
HD, 298th Corps Spt Bn, Philadelphia
367th Maint Co (-), Philadelphia
Det 1, 367th Maint Co, Dekalb
3656th Maint Co (-), Camp Shelby
Det 1, 3656th Maint Co, Waynesboro
1387th QM Water Supply Co, Greenville
Det 1, 1387th QM Co, Rolling Fork
1687th Truck Co, Southaven
Det 1, 1687th Truck Co, Yazoo City



155th Brigade Combat Team, Tupelo

HC, 155th BCT, Tupelo
 Det 1, HHC, 155th BCT, New Albany
 HQ, 106th Brigade Support Battalion, Monticello
 HC, 106th BSB, Monticello
 Co A, 106th BSB, Magee
 Det 1, Co A, 106th BSB, Taylorsville
 Det 2, Co A, 106th BSB, Prentiss
 Co B, 106th BSB, Camp Shelby
 Co C, 106th BSB, Crystal Springs
 Co D, 106th BSB, Corinth
 Det 1, Co D, 106th BSB, Ripley
 Co E (-), 106th BSB, Brookhaven
 Det 1, Co E, 106th BSB, Gloster
 Det 2, Co E, 106th BSB, Collins
 Co F (-), 106th BSB, Grenada
 Det 1, Co F, 106th BSB, Charleston
 Det 2, Co F, 106th BSB, Cleveland
 Co G, 106th BSB, Louisville
 Det 1, Co G, 106th BSB, Eupora
 HQ, 155th BSTB, Meridian
 HHC(-), 155th BSTB, Meridian
 Det 1, HHC, 155th BSTB, Carthage
 Det 2, HHC, 155th BSTB, Quitman
 Co A, (MI Co), 155th BSTB, Canton
 Det 1, Co A, 155th BSTB, Camp Shelby
 Co B, 155th BSTB (Ntwk Spt Co), Meridian
 HQ, 2-114th STRIKE, Starkville
 HHB, 2-114th STRIKE, Starkville
 Btry A, 2-114th STRIKE, Columbus
 Det 1, Btry A, 2-114th STRIKE, Ackerman
 Btry B, 2-114th STRIKE, Kosciusko
 Det 1, Btry B, 2-114th STRIKE, Winona
 HQ, 1-155th Infantry Regiment, McComb
 HHC(-), 1-155th Inf Regt, McComb
 Det 1, HHC, 1-155th Inf Regt, Tylertown
 Co A, 1-155th Inf Regt, Biloxi
 Co B, 1-155th Inf Regt, Poplarville
 Co C, 1-155th Inf Regt, Natchez
 Co D, 1-155th Inf Regt, Biloxi
 Co E, 1-155th Inf Regt, Columbia
 HQ, 1-98th Cav Regt Sq, Amory
 HHT (-), 1-98th Cav Regt, Amory
 Det 1, HHT, 1-98th Cav Regt, Nettleton
 Trp A, 1-98th Cav Regt, Pontotoc
 Trp B, 1-98th Cav Regt, Booneville
 Trp C, 1-98th Cav Regt, Fulton
 Det 1, Trp C, 1-98th Cav Regt, Iuka
 HQ, 2-198th Combat Arms Bn, Senatobia
 HHC (-), 2-198th CAB, Senatobia
 Det 1, HHC, 2-198th CAB, Batesville
 Det 2, HHC, 2-198th CAB, Sardis
 Co A, 2-198th CAB, Hernando
 Det 1, Co A, 2-198th CAB, Holly Springs
 Co B, 2-198th CAB, Greenwood
 Det 1, Co B, 2-198th CAB, Drew
 Co C, 2-198th CAB, Oxford
 Co D, 2-198th CAB, Indianola
 Co E, 2-198th CAB, Clarksdale

Economic Impact of the National Guard on Mississippi

As America's first military organization, the National Guard traces its origins back to 1636. Beginning as a colonial militia, the National Guard has evolved throughout the history of America to become a proud, professional force that continues to serve local communities, states, and the nation. Sanctioned in the Constitution of the United States, the National Guard is organized in every state, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

In Mississippi, the National Guard is a great value and contributes to the state of readiness for the nation as a whole. In terms of what it means monetarily to the state, the following is provided (shown in millions of dollars):

FEDERAL APPROPRIATIONS (Total)		\$685.0
STATE APPROPRIATIONS (Total)		7.2
	ANG	ARNG
CONSTRUCTION DOLLARS	6.3	64.4
Operations & Maintenance (Fed)	0	39.0
Armory Maintenance (State)	0	2.1



National Guard Training Sites

CAMP SHELBY JOINT FORCES TRAINING CENTER, Hattiesburg, Mississippi

Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center is the largest state-owned mobilization site in the nation, and supports a wide variety of training and logistical support activities, including heavy maneuver and collective gunnery, multiple battalion field artillery firing ranges, environmentally realistic training, air-to-ground combat training capabilities and theater-specific mobilization training for reserve and active components of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.

Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center is a force multiplier for today's military fighting forces and was founded in 1917. The 135,000-acre installation has served as a training and mobilization site for American troops from World War I and World War II, all the way to current Overseas Contingency Operations in locations all around the world.

Located near Hattiesburg, Mississippi, the installation covers parts of Forrest, Perry and Greene counties and currently serves as a mobilization training center featuring the latest equipment and technology in the U.S. Army's arsenal, as well as mobilization operational support. Camp Shelby has mobilized and demobilized over 180,000 troops since beginning the execution of its mission as a U.S. Army Forces Command Primary Force Generation Installation in June 2004.

Camp Shelby is home to active Army units subordinate to First Army Division East. The 177th Armored Brigade and the 158th Infantry Brigade mobilize, train and validate Reserve Component units in response to combatant commanders, Department of the Army, and U.S. Army Forces Command to prepare units for combat operations. When directed by First Army Division East, they provide training oversight and support to enhance National Guard and Reserve units' readiness for wartime requirements.

Camp Shelby is home to our nation's only Unmanned Aircraft Regional Flight Center, estimated at a \$72 million investment, which brings new cutting-edge training capability to the nation's largest National Guard mobilization training site. The state-of-the-art facility opened in 2009, and its mission was expanded to support the Army's flying program for Active Duty and National Guard units utilizing both AAI RQ-7 Shadow and RQ-11 Raven unmanned aircraft systems ensuring proficiency and sustainment training for unmanned aircraft flight and maintenance personnel.



Camp Shelby is a prime location for the Air Force to train at the Auxiliary Field One Assault Landing Strip. The runway is 3,500 feet long and can land aircraft as large as the Air Force's C-17 and offers airborne mission training opportunity for specialized units.

The Air-to-Ground Bombing Range located at Camp Shelby is a state-of-the-art training ground used by aviation assets to maximize training opportunities with urban warfare environments, realistic scenarios and electronic warfare threats through the use of scoreable targets and real world scenarios.

As a joint training environment, Camp Shelby offers mobilization readiness training for components of the Department of Defense.

Camp Shelby offers diverse training for maximum proficiency in a flexible Joint Forces environment.



Soldiers are given personal equipment before deploying to overseas locations.



CAMP McCAIN **Grenada, Mississippi**

Camp McCain is a Mississippi National Guard training site that covers 13,000 acres. Training at the facility includes tank maneuvers, artillery training and general training for National Guard troops. .

Camp McCain was one of several training sites that sprang up throughout Mississippi during World War II. In 1942, the United States Army opened a major training facility on a 42,000-acre site at Elliott, Mississippi in Grenada County. The facility was named Camp McCain in honor of a famous family of military men from neighboring Carroll County, including Carroll county native Major General Henry P. McCain. Troops for the army's 87th and 94th divisions trained at Camp McCain before being sent into combat in Europe. At the peak of its expansion, Camp McCain served as many as 50,000 troops.

The US Forest Service dedicated 5,874 acres to the Army in December 1942 to be utilized as the Oxford Bombing Range. The facility was to provide the Army Air Forces with a site for testing bomb dropping mechanisms and like purposes. It is assumed that practice bombs (with spotting charges) were used at the site. In 1943, The Secretary of War determined that there was no longer a military necessity for the bombing



range. In August 1943, the USFS permitted 30,617 acres (including the bombing range area) to the Army for use as a maneuver area. The site was used by the Army units stationed at Camp McCain for bivouac and maneuver purposes. The maneuver area remained active until 1947. Currently, most of the site is forest land within the Holly Springs National Forest.

The camp also served as a prisoner of war camp for captured German soldiers -- Camp McCain housed 7,700 of them. In 1944, the four base camps - Camp McCain, Camp Como, Camp Clinton, and Camp Shelby - developed fifteen branch camps that furnished POWs to work in the cotton fields. The camp closed on Oct. 15, 1944 and all but 3,000 acres of the site was sold. The camp was deactivated after the war and most of the buildings were dismantled and some sold to municipalities and colleges.

Camp McCain today functions as an important Army



The House of Representatives passed a defense appropriations bill in November 2001 which included \$6 million for the Mississippi Army National Guard for improvements at Camp McCain in Grenada County. In FY 2002 Defense Appropriations contained \$3.8 million for the Guard to upgrade Camp McCain Road and Greensboro Road. Another \$2.2 million provided for construction projects on the base.

Camp McCain has worked for 10 years on natural resource management. One of the main concerns at the facility was erosion control on tank and artillery training sites and roadside erosion. Scientists recommended and implemented erosion control practices, such as seeding and fertilization, on roadsides and training sites. Both techniques worked to increase plant cover, enhance wildlife foods and provides wildlife habitat. Through the diligent work of scientists and military personnel, 26 protected state and federally listed plants and animals, game species and more than 100 species of non-game birds now have more suitable habitat.

National Guard training site, but with only one-tenth of its original area and capacity. In 1947, the Mississippi National Guard worked with the U.S. Government to retain part of the camp for small arms training. The rifle ranges and 3000 acres were retained under state control, and the rest sold.

In the beginning, the camp was administered by the local unit in Grenada. As usage increased, the demand for more facilities also increased. In the mid-to-late 60's, the 223rd Engineer Battalion constructed mess sheds, quonset huts, a latrine, and some of the first roads in the tactical area. In 1969, tracked vehicles were added to Camp McCain, and in 1971, a maintenance facility was built. The opening of the tactical areas caused many changes, including the organization of the 221st Engineer Detachment. This unit is now named Detachment 2, Joint Force Headquarters, Mississippi National Guard.

In recent years, the camp has expanded at a fast rate. Additional buildings have been constructed for operations, maintenance support facilities have been added, and three more National Guard units are now stationed on Camp McCain. Buildings for troop housing have been constructed, so that now 1,200 troops can be housed here. In 1984, an additional 4,500 adjoining acres were added, increasing the tactical training area. In 1987-1988, ten modern weapons ranges were constructed. The road network on Camp McCain has been expanded and improved, allowing improved tactical training.

Camp McCain Logistics division provides housing, subsistence, general supply, fuel and ammunition. The facility can accommodate over 1,200 troops. There are over 120 maid service beds, five dining facilities, numerous classrooms, and administrative/supply areas. Camp McCain provides janitorial, kitchen and general supplies for customer units. The Retail Fuel Point supplies JP-8. The Ammo Transfer Activity supports any and all ammunition that can be fired on ranges at Camp McCain.



COMBAT READINESS TRAINING CENTER Gulfport, Miss.

In 1941, the Army-Air Corps initiated military training in Gulfport, Miss., and in 1954, the Air National Guard Training Site was established at the Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport. In 1990, the Air National Guard Training Site was renamed the Combat Readiness Training Center. The CRTC's mission is to provide an integrated, year-round, joint realistic training environment of supersonic airspace, gunnery ranges, systems, facilities and equipment for deployed units to enhance their capabilities and combat readiness. The CRTC fully supports the "Total Force" concept by supporting units from all branches of the Department of Defense, as well as the National Guard and Reserve components.

The CRTC at Gulfport hosts regular deployments of ANG units, and offers convenient offshore airspace that is fully instrumented for recording air-to-air engagements. This unique sea-based range is the only Air National Guard owned and maintained super-sonic range with unmatched P-5 combat training systems technology. Nearby at Camp Shelby, the CRTC features an air-to-ground range incorporating a complex scored target array, threat simulator, and sufficient low and medium altitude airspace to conduct a variety of missions.

A \$26 million Combat Training System that instruments all airspace and ranges is also present. This system provides advanced, realistic training and debriefing capability, and combines sophisticated electronic threat and scoring systems.

The CRTC has approximately 170 full-time military and civilian employees with a \$29 million economic impact for FY 12. The facility has bed space for approximately 1,000 personnel and can accommodate up to three separate flying units simultaneously. Flight line ramp space can support up to nine C-5 Galaxy aircraft, twenty-two KC-135 Stratotankers, or one hundred fighters.

The CRTC has undergone an aggressive renovation and construction program over the past few years, which has enhanced combat training capabilities and quality of life for personnel who work and train here. The site boasts upgraded troop quarters, aircraft and structural firefighter training facilities, a Weapons Engagement training simulator for convoy and security operations, a modern covered small arms range, and much more. Installation training spaces have been upgraded with the latest audio/visual equipment and offer the flexibility to support any indoor training requirement. Improvements to the installation are ongoing to maintain a ready, reliable, and relevant training environment at a low cost.

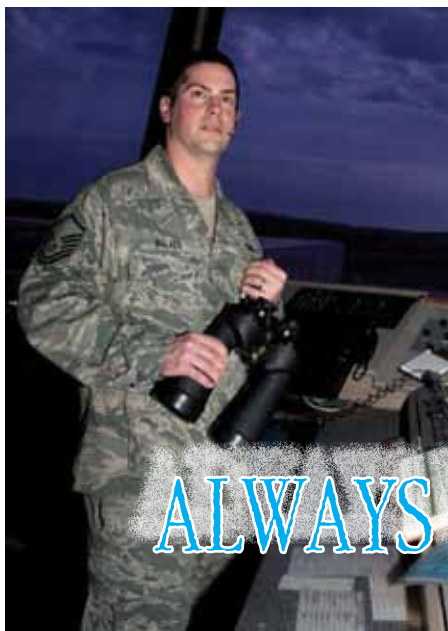
The CRTC has two tenant Mississippi Air National Guard units on base. The 255th Air Control Squadron, activated in 1971 as a Combat Communications Squadron, was converted to a Control and Reporting Center in 1987. They were the first Air National Guard unit to receive data link capabilities for all joint forces. In 1998, the 255th was converted to their role of Air Control. The squadron provides modern Ground Control Intercept capability to the total force as well

as other vital activities. The 255th ACS has 171 personnel, and is combat ready in all areas. Their mission is to organize, train and equip personnel to provide an operational ready Control and Reporting Center in support of worldwide theater air operations and statewide emergency contingencies.

The other tenant is the 209th Civil Engineer Squadron. The 209th CES was formed as the 173rd Civil Engineering Flight in 1969 and has grown over the years to its present manning of 101 personnel. The mission of the 209th CES is to provide trained combat ready civil engineer teams to set-up, maintain, and operate the self-sustaining Collective Protective Small Shelter System-3, which provides a chemical, biological, and radiological toxic free operational, rest, and relief environment. The squadron provides civil engineer teams for planning and crisis operations support for theater headquarters, joint task forces, contingency operating locations, aerial ports, and en route bases. The 209th CES provides Fire Protection Management, an Incident Command Team, and Operations Teams in support of a bare base or forward operating location or other major theater war missions at contingency operating locations overseas and stateside.

While not considered tenants of the CRTC, two Army National Guard units are co-located at the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport - the 1108th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group and the headquarters of the 890th Engineer Battalion.

The CRTC significantly contributed to the combat readiness of the United States Joint Military Forces over the last ten years since 9/11. Over 11,796 military units trained at this site, representing United States Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, United States Army, Army National Guard, United States Marine Corps, United State Navy, United States Coast Guard, and multi-national forces and civilian agencies. The CRTC's Combat Training System supported over 149,129 Air Combat Maneuvering Instrumentation sorties, which vastly contributes to the combat readiness of the United States combat air patrol squadrons. The CRTC designed and constructed a new Weapons and Tactics facility to support combat capabilities. The Shelby East Air to Ground range provided support to over 17,950 sorties composed of all DOD entities ranging from Navy F-18 to Air Force A-10 aircraft. The CRTC continued efforts to establish implementation and operations of Shelby Aux Field One, which is located within R-4401, and the confines of Camp Shelby Army National Guard Operational Area. Shelby Aux Field One is a surfaced, 3,500 foot by 90 foot Assault Strip. To date approximately 5,063 sorties have been flown by C-17 and C-130 aircraft.



ALWAYS READY...ALWAYS THERE



Directorate of Military Personnel

The Directorate of Military Personnel administers all Mississippi Army National Guard programs relating to military personnel. Sections/branches within this directorate are responsible for administration and management of various services and programs, including officer and enlisted personnel, incentives, Soldier reintegration, health services (physical, occupational, mental), resiliency training, transition assistance program, employment training seminar, military awards and decorations, education services, family readiness and assistance, records, military honors, casualty operations, employer support, retirement services, survivor outreach services, and automated personnel data management. These branches and sections work together to ensure improved individual and unit mission readiness. This directorate also continues to manage the mobilization of Soldiers in support of Overseas Contingency Operations.

The Personnel Support Branch provides personnel support to all Army Guard personnel, responsible for performing the tasks traditionally thought of as being human resource related. 2012 has been a year of transition, seeing many personnel services pushed closer to the Soldier through the Personnel Services Delivery Redesign initiative. The intent of this initiative is less bureaucracy and a more timely reaction to the Soldier's needs. The Personnel Support Branch assisted with the mobilization of nearly 1,000 Soldiers during fiscal year 2012, down from previous years. We are maintaining several DEERS sites around the state, managing the processing of discharges, providing all retirement-related services, as well as, conducting monthly administrative workshops to train and assist Soldiers in the field with administrative issues/functions. We are ending the fiscal year and continuing through 2013 with additional training in the SIDPERS arena in an effort to maximize the support of Personnel Services Delivery Redesign process.

Casualty Operations provides/assigns casualty notification and assistance to all Army reserve, guard and active personnel, their next of kin and beneficiaries. They provide the annual training required to maintain the CNO/CAO certification for all E-7s and above who are certified. Casualty operations also provide assistance to surviving family members for the purposes of filing for benefits. We provide this service for both the active duty and traditional Soldiers' families.

Survivor Outreach Services is an Army-wide program designed to provide dedicated and comprehensive support to survivors of deceased Soldiers. The SOS mission is to embrace survivors and give the assurance that they are connected to the Army Family through a multi-agency Survivor Support Program. The sustainment of coordinated efforts maximizes cooperation with National Guard members, ensures Survivors receive all entitled benefits, and allows them to remain an important part of

the Army for as long as they desire. The SOS program functions as the long term support personnel for Survivors, forms support groups and networks, and offers events that will allow surviving families the opportunity to receive support. Additionally, the coordinators deliver briefings to the community and leadership and provide availability of a multitude of resources to Survivor Families. SOS coordinators also work closely with the Casualty Assistance Officers and with Military Funeral Honors to ensure all Army Survivors receive the necessary support. The SOS coordinators in MS continue to provide support services to active duty and citizen Soldier survivors. There are currently over 400 surviving family members throughout MS that are being assisted.

Military Funeral Honors branch of the directorate, which is responsible for providing all military funerals for active duty Army, Army Reserve and MSARNG Veterans and retirees, conducted 1371 funerals during this fiscal year. The Mississippi Honor Guard covers military funerals for the entire state. The economic impact from this program alone was nearly \$1 million for support, operations and training costs.

The Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office serves all members of the Mississippi Army and Air National Guard. It supports the National Guard Bureau's mission to eliminate incidents of sexual assault by instituting a comprehensive program that focuses on increasing awareness through prevention and education, victim centered support, intimidation free reporting, thorough investigation, and accountability for those who



commit sexual crimes. The office is staffed with two full time employees and 110 volunteers performing in an additional duty capacity. The backbone of the SAPR program is comprised of Sexual Assault Response Coordinators and Victim Advocates. The role of the SARCs is to provide the administrative function and organizational control over their assigned areas of responsibility. They essentially manage the program and ensure issues and

victims are all promptly handled, training is accomplished and the program is organized. Victim Advocates will actually work with a victim to ensure their needs are met. Every case is unique as far as time involved and steps taken to assist the victim. Each month the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Committee (SAPRC) meets to discuss policy, issues, and cases and makes recommendation to the Adjutant General.

The Education, Incentives & Employment Office provides education, incentives and employment-related funding assistance and support activities to Soldiers, Airmen and Families of the Mississippi National Guard. This section provides Tuition Assistance to Soldiers of MSARNG, while providing State Educational Assistance Program benefits to Airmen of the MSANG. The TA Program has paid out over \$3 million in tuition benefits, funding over 1,152 enrollees for some 5,829 course enrollments. The SEAP has funded over 300 tuition requests from the MSANG totaling over one half million dollars towards post-secondary education within the state. The Selected Reserve Incentives Program paid over \$2.7 million to some 3,693 Soldiers during the fiscal year, while the Student Loan Repayment Program paid over \$120,000 on behalf of 312 Soldiers during the same period. We continue to be instrumental in the counseling and administration of Veterans Administration educational benefits for the state and have become a recognized and respected authority nationwide with exposure at the Department of Defense, National Guard Bureau, Department of Veteran Affairs, Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support, Veterans Affairs Administrators of Mississippi, National Association of Veteran's Program Administrators, Western Association of Veterans Education Specialists and numerous other organizations.

The Mississippi National Guard State Family Programs promote self-reliance and resiliency in Service members, their Families and volunteers by preparing, assisting and supporting their Service Member for the obligations of local, State, and Federal military service. Core components of the State's Family Programs include: family readiness, family assistance, child and youth programs, support assistance, and direct support to the MSARNG and MSANG. The MSNG Family Programs office conducted three regional Family Readiness training seminars to educate and train individuals who volunteer for MSNG Family Readiness Group positions in support of Soldiers, Airmen, and their Families. Approximately 165 volunteers were trained on Family Readiness operations and regulations during these three Regional events. In addition to training, the Family Programs Office operated seven Family Assistance Center locations with ten staff personnel assisting Families with needs that arise during peacetime and mobilization. The Family Assistance Centers provided critical support and services to personnel

and families with on-site resources and referrals for counseling, financial planning, TRICARE insurance, identification cards, and crisis intervention. Referral services are provided by licensed Military Family Life Consultants. In addition to the Family Assistance Centers, the MSNG Family Programs Office supervised seven staff Family Readiness Support Assistants providing Major Subordinate Commanders with resources and training for their unit Family Readiness Groups. FRSAs assist the commanders by ensuring that the commander's Family Readiness Program is functioning and supporting unit readiness. MSNG Family Programs continued to manage the Wounded Warrior tracking and reporting during 2012. This critical task involves calling wounded



service members and family members located at medical treatment facilities and convalescing at home. Warrior tracking is reported to the The adjutant general on the status of service members' rehabilitation treatments and/or

current duty status. The MSNG Family Programs Youth Coordinators conducted two MSNG Family Foundation meetings. The MSNG Family Foundation has 12 adult volunteers that assist the Youth Coordinators in planning and executing MSNG youth activities. The Youth Coordinators and volunteers supported our annual summer camp, "KIDS AT", for children of MSNG Guardsmen, consisting of 147 campers, 71 adult staff members and 36 youth volunteer staff members. MSNG Youth Coordinators conducted three additional wildlife camps this past year at TARA Wildlife, located near Vicksburg, MS. Camps included youth from ages 9-15 with priority going to deployed service members' families. The three, week long, camps were attended by 113 youth. Additionally, MSNG Family Programs planned, coordinated, and executed four Strong Bonds

Marriage Enrichment Retreats throughout the state during this past year. Each event hosted no less than 28 couples per weekend and



remained one of our most popular events. Events were facilitated and led by MSNG Chaplains, Family Programs staff members, and Personal Financial Counselors. Curriculums consisted of Active Relationships, Laugh

Your Way to a Better Marriage, Marriage LINKS, and the Eight Habits of Highly Effective Couples. Yellow Ribbon events are dedicated to mobilized Service Members and provided information on topics such as: Keeping families and service members connected, Taking care of yourself, Children coping with deployment, Family assistance, and the emotional cycles of deployment. Family Programs Youth coordinators also planned and executed childcare for these Yellow Ribbon events.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve was established in 1972 to promote cooperation and understanding between reserve component members and their civilian employers. ESGR is a Department of Defense agency that seeks to promote a culture in which all American employers support and value the military service of their employees. We recognize outstanding support, increase awareness of the law, and resolve conflicts through mediation. Our Reserve forces spend a lot of time away from the workplace defending our nation, supporting a demanding operations tempo and training to maintain their mission readiness. In this environment, civilian



employers play a critical role in the defense of our nation by complying with existing employment laws protecting the rights of workers who serve in the Reserve component. The Mississippi Committee for ESGR assisted and provided information briefs during Yellow Ribbon Events, Soldier Readiness Processing Events and Unit Briefs. The Mississippi Committee for ESGR also participated in unit family days all over the state. During these events we were able to brief over 17,000 service members, their spouses and/or family members. Throughout the year, the Mississippi Committee for ESGR hosted several "Briefings with the Boss" and our annual Awards Banquet. During the past year the Mississippi Committee for ESGR presented over 100 Patriot Awards, 16 Seven Seals Awards, 10 Above and Beyond Awards and 1 Pro Patriot Award. Also this year, Crystal Springs United Methodist Church was presented with the Freedom Award. The Mississippi Committee for ESGR participated in several statewide area meetings to gain Statements of Support. Among these were the Mississippi Association of School Superintendents, SHRM/Human Resources, and the Mississippi Manufacturers' Association. The Mississippi Committee for ESGR has obtained over 940

SOS's and briefed over 4,900 employers. The Mississippi Committee for ESGR consist of over 70 Volunteers and five Staff Members.

Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. During FY 2012 the MSNG Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program conducted six pre-deployment events, four during deployment events, and seven post-deployment events. These events were hosted for over 3,500 Soldiers, Airmen, and their families. To date the Yellow Ribbon office has held over 107 events for approximately 24,500 service members and their families. Each event consisted of a fully catered noon meal each day, on-site childcare to include an hourly schedule of games and activities, and a presentation appropriate for the mobilization status of the units attending. Family attendance is strongly encouraged. To help facilitate the financial burden the Yellow Ribbon team generates, Invitational Travel Orders are provided on site for either a spouse or parent that reimburses them for the cost associated with attending the event. These events were hosted in venues across the state such as the Gulf Coast Coliseum and Jackson Telcom Center to provide a central location for attendance and to create a relaxed, welcoming environment for those in attendance. Over 25 vendors to include ESGR, Tricare, MSNG Association, Military One Source, representatives from the Judge Advocate office, Veteran's Affairs, OIF/OEF Clinic, and a variety of employers and educational institutions were on site to provide services and help to those attending. Additionally, the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program offers chaplains and a variety of professionals in psychological health and well-being, on site for one-on-one counseling sessions. The VA Mobile Vet Center was on hand to provide all VA online resources and materials. This allowed participants to enroll for VA benefits with a simple 20 minute screening instead of taking time during the week to go to the VA home office in Jackson to enroll. FY 2013 promises to be a busy year as well with multiple Yellow Ribbon Events already planned. The Yellow Ribbon Office continues to seek out new and fresh ways to provide briefings, information and the environment to link service members and their families with the vast amount of resources generated for them by the Department of Defense and government agencies that work closely with the military.

Transition Assistance Program. A TAP advisor briefed over 3500 service and family members on military, VA, TRICARE and other benefits and entitlements earned as a result of mobilization and deployments. He assisted 92 service members in attaining their service-connected disability compensation through the VA. Currently they are working with the Veterans Administration and Department of Labor implementing the Veterans Opportunity to Work Act that must be in place by November 22, 2012. This initiative will ensure veterans returning from deployment who are unemployed will have the best opportunity available for employment.

Office of the State Surgeon and Health Services continued to evolve in fiscal year 2012 with the focus of transitioning an understaffed reactive workforce to a proactive and stable full-time staff, logically realigning

functions and responsibilities with the appropriate organizations. The priority of effort was, and remains, to decrease the numbers of Medical Readiness Class 4 Soldiers through well-planned and coordinated medical readiness events and maximizing the efficient processing of all personnel. The collaborative efforts of the Office of the State Surgeon and the MSARNG Medical Detachment team resulted in medical readiness events becoming a part of the operational planning process for MSARNG units. Occupational Health and Industrial Hygiene made positive strides in FY 12, coordinating and completing OH inspections and IH surveys of facilities with potential high hazard exposure risks. Transition from a job code medical surveillance program to a hazard exposure risk based medical surveillance program is now in place that will reduce direct and indirect costs as well as employee work interruption. The Office of the State Surgeon continues to develop efficiencies through contractual support. FY13 looks to be a great year with the implementation of two contracts placing two registered nurses at each major

units. In addition to these personnel, we are placing a team of Care Coordinators at each MSC to work alongside with the RNs to positively impact the management of Soldiers in the various medical processes. The implementation of a local contract for medical support has also proven effective by giving the MSARNG better control of support requirements and allowing for better synchronization with Commander's planning objectives and training requirements.



Mississippi Army National Guardsmen train for deployment overseas at the Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center south of Hattiesburg. Various ranges at the CSJFTC provide excellent training skills before Soldiers arrive at their overseas locations.

Directorate of Operations, Training & Mobilization

The Directorate of Operations and Training is responsible for an annual budget of over \$84 million and oversees seven divisions: Mobilization Readiness, Training, Directorate of Military Support, 47th Civil Support Team, State Counterdrug Program, State Partnership Program and the 154th Regional Training Institute. The Directorate has seen an exceptionally high operations tempo this year with the training and deployments of our units for the missions abroad and assisting our citizens at home.

The Mobilization and Readiness Division

The Mobilization and Readiness Division is responsible for issues dealing with unit readiness, mobilizations, stationing plans, and new equipment fielding and training. During FY 2012, 2,500 Soldiers from the Mississippi Army National Guard mobilized in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn. Below is a breakout of the MSARNG units, their location and which operation they participated in:

184th Expeditionary Sust. Cmd.	Laurel	OEF
1-185th Aviation Bn.	Tupelo	OND
231st Engr. Team Surv. & Desg.	Gulfport	OEF
298th Service Support Bn.	Philadelphia ...	OEF
2/20th Special Forces Group.	Jackson	OEF
1/204th Air Defense Artillery.	Newton	OND
114th Army Liaison Team.	Greenville.	OEF
1108th TASMG.	Gulfport.	OEF
230th Financial Management Bn.	Jackson	Balkans
112th Military Police Company.	Canton	OEF/KU
113th Military Police Co.	Brandon	OEF/KU
B/1-111th Aviation.	Meridian	OND/OEF
1-155th Combat Arms Bn.	McComb	OEF
223rd Engineer Bn.	West Point.	OEF
288th Engineer Co. Sapper.	Houston	OEF
F/1-171 Aviation Co.	Jackson	OEF
Special Operations Det. SOUTH.	Jackson	HOA
289th Engineer Co.	Bruce	OEF

In addition this year, the MSARNG has supported Continental United States training with over 650 Soldiers on orders at Camp Shelby Joint Force Training Center, training units mobilizing for OEF and OND.

The MSARNG has also supported the Department of Homeland Security with Company C, 114th Aviation supporting the Southwest Border Mission with 22 soldiers

and equipment.

Over \$548,248,622 in new equipment for the MSARNG has fielded, including 118 Bradley Fighting Vehicles and 103 Wheeled Vehicles and new equipment training has been conducted for over 3,000 Soldiers.

The Training Division oversees the implementation and execution of all training plans and training budgets for the Mississippi Army National Guard. To support our missions, the training division managed a budget of over \$59 million this year. The training division areas include; Inactive Duty Training, Annual Training, Overseas Deployment Training, Combat Training Center Exercises and Individual Training. Individual Training includes all Military Occupational Specialty Schools, Non-Commissioned Officer and Officer Education Courses. During this training year, over 8,000 MSARNG Soldiers conducted Annual Training in five states and five countries. Soldiers participated in seven Overseas Deployment Training exercises in Germany, Italy and Africa. In addition, a successful Officer/NCO Exchange was conducted with the United Kingdom. Annually, the MSARNG sends thousands of Soldiers to individual training schools in order to prepare them to meet our Federal and State missions. This year was no different. More than 3,400 Soldiers attended individual training courses throughout the United States and 3,700 Soldiers conducted distance learning courses.

Camp Shelby's 154th Regional Training Institute conducts training for Guard, Reserve and Active component Soldiers from all 54 States and Territories in the areas of Noncommissioned Officer Education Systems and Military Occupational Skills in Infantry, Armor, Ordnance, Health Services, and Officer Candidate School. Additionally, the 154th Regiment provides training assistant teams to all MSARNG units and is expanding its role in Unmanned Aerial Surveillance training. The RTI is rated as an "Institute of Excellence" by the Training and Doctrine Command Accreditation standards and is considered one of the leading RTIs in the nation. The 154th Regiment will train over 10,000 Soldiers in 2012. The unit "Trains to Fight" and "Fights to Train."

The State Partnership Program (SPP): The State Partnership Program (SPP) doubled in size this year but quadrupled in the number of events, as we added a second country to the program. We are now partnered with Bolivia (since 1999) and Uzbekistan (since Jan 2012). Events of note with Bolivia included a Community Justice Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) and a Deployment Preparation SMEE that focused on how we prepare females for deployment. The MSNG completed eleven events with Uzbekistan in the first six months of this partnership.



Uzbek soldiers train with Mississippi Army National Guard personnel at the Camp Shelby Regional Training Institute.

Uzbekistan is a geographically significant country to the war effort in Afghanistan as the majority of the supplies are ferried via the Northern Distribution Network from Uzbekistan into Afghanistan. The MSNG conducts 25 military-to-military events with Uzbekistan each year in this strategic partner with the U.S.

The 47th CST: The National Guard continues to strengthen its ability to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosive incidents. Members of the 47th Civil Support Team, a total of 22 personnel, have completed the Department of Defense certification process. The full-time team is made up of full-time guardsmen who provide the governor with an immediate response capability, specialized expertise, and technical assistance that can be provided to local incident commanders. Congress recently expanded the duties of the CSTs to include response to intentional or unintentional HAZMAT incidents and natural or man-made disasters. The National Guard's CSTs, which are so essential to the security of American people on an almost daily basis, depend on the availability of adequate operations and maintenance funds to carry out their tasks. Any reduction in funding below that requested carries the risk of hindering the operational capabilities of these essential teams.

Counterdrug Program: Dedicated, Diligent and Community-Connected, the Mississippi National Guard Counterdrug program is federally funded and consists of two

parts: The Regional Counterdrug Training Academy, located at Naval Air Station, Meridian; and the Counterdrug Task Force, headquartered in Flowood, all under the direction of the Counterdrug Coordinator/Commandant. The RCTA has 17 Army and Air National Guard personnel and three civilian state employees, and contracts with law enforcement experts to train state and local drug law enforcement officers from Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Georgia. The CDTF has a staff of 26 Army and Air National Guard personnel assigned in the areas of Drug Enforcement Support, Drug Demand Reduction, Joint Substance Abuse and Prevention Treatment and Outreach.

Drug Enforcement Support: The personnel who work in drug enforcement support local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies with their unique military skills and training. That uniqueness includes aviators, criminal analysts, and special operations personnel. Although the Counterdrug Program continued to support all law enforcement agency programs from the previous year, requests from these agencies for even more guard assistance far surpass our ability to provide additional Soldiers and Airmen. As in previous years, interdiction personnel serve the following agencies: Mississippi Bureau of Narcotics, Mississippi Highway Patrol, Jackson Police Department, Gulf Coast High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Sheriffs, Local Police Departments, Narcotics Task Forces throughout the state, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Internal Revenue

Service, U.S. Marshal Service, U.S. Customs Service

The Director of Military Support coordinates Defense Support to Civil Authorities during gubernatorial call-outs and is responsible for maintaining operations plans for situations necessitating a domestic response. Such plans include the state's hurricane plan, earthquake plan, winter storm plan, pandemic influenza plan, and an all-hazards plan that delineates responsibilities and guidelines for mitigating a no-notice disaster such as a catastrophic tornado. The DOMS serves as the primary Emergency Coordination Officer for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and his staff forms a large part of the State Emergency Response Team's capabilities at the state's forward Emergency Operations Center during a disaster. During steady state operations, staff operates the Joint Operations Center and maintains the Common Operating Picture. They also process and maintain Serious Incident Reports. Concurrently, the DOMS maintains oversight and program management for Physical Security, Electronic Security, and Anti-Terrorism.

In October 2011, the DOMS was the lead agency for organizing the Governor's Responders Academy. Always striving to ensure that State and Local agencies understand the capability of support that the Guard provides, COL Smithson participated in panel discussions and delivered a class on Immediate Response Authority and DSCA. DOMS personnel organized an equipment display consisting of equipment provided by each of the state agencies participating, including the 47th CST's equipment and a UH-72 Security and Surveillance helicopter provided by Co. C, 1st Bn., 114 Aviation.

In April, DOMS personnel coordinated military support to the state's full scale State Medical Response System exercise that was held in several cities in North Mississippi. DOMS personnel arranged air support provided by Co. D, 2nd Bn, 151st Avn MEDEVAC Lakotas and drew training areas at Camp McCain in order to facilitate training events. Mississippi Department of Health, University of Mississippi Medical Center and other responders received in depth training on the capabilities of the helicopters and crews that will become a major portion of the state's air ambulance capacity following a catastrophic event. The Guard facilitated training on loading zone setup, unloading and offloading patients, and demonstrated the helicopter's interoperable radio and hoist capabilities. The training resulted in further collaboration between the MEDEVAC unit and civilian air ambulance organizations for standardization of equipment, load plans, and procedures.

In late April, Adam Mayes abducted two girls from their home in Tennessee and brought them to a location near Guntown, Miss. On May 2, an Amber Alert was issued and state and federal authorities sprang into action. MSNG supported the response by transporting an FBI response team by helicopter from Jackson to help emplace a cordon and by placing a Security and Surveillance UH-72 on alert. In these

instances, MSNG forces were in motion within two hours of notification.

Domestic Cannabis Eradication and Suppression

Program: Mississippi Guardsmen continue to provide service and support to Mississippi's Domestic Cannabis Eradication and Suppression Program that strives to reduce the production, distribution and use of marijuana. This is a multi-agency effort driven by the Drug Enforcement Administration and Mississippi's law enforcement agencies. Participants, in addition to the National Guard, include: MS Bureau of Narcotics (lead agency), sheriffs, and local police departments.

Drug Demand Reduction Program: Mississippi's Drug Demand Reduction Program continued to hone the program, making it accessible to as many youth as possible. The MSNG's DDRP approach combines nationally tested programs that use interactive methods to deliver a drug-free message, reaching youth at critical junctures in their lives to prevent the onset of first use and to discourage further use. During FY 2012, the DDRP used various initiatives to deliver anti-drug messages to over 22,000 youth, adults, and military personnel throughout the state.

Joint Substance Abuse Program and Prevention

Treatment and Outreach Program: The Army National Guard has an aggressive internal prevention program. This program works with commanders to develop an anti-drug education program. In addition, this section is responsible for drug testing our Soldiers. This past year, over 90% of non-deployed Soldiers were tested. This ensures a high state of readiness, and fitness for duty among our Soldiers. Also within CDTF is the Prevention, Treatment and Outreach Program. This program ensures that our Soldiers receive the available resources and prevention education materials needed to help them overcome addictions.

The Regional Counterdrug Training Academy

in Meridian, provides tuition-free counterdrug training to law enforcement officers from across the nation. Priority is given to state and local agencies in Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia. Since the academy opened in 1992, over 84,000 officers have attended classes in the philosophies, techniques, skills and tactics of the most current and effective counterdrug detection and apprehension topics. The academy's six classrooms can serve up to 175 students per week. During FY 2011, the academy served over 8,300 law enforcement officers.



(Above) A goat farmer in Wiggins, Miss., explains the difficulties of raising goats and getting them to market with Soldiers of the 31st Rear Operations Center Agribusiness Development Team during a visit to his farm in April.



(Left) Members of the Miss. National Guard Combat Marksmanship Team compete at the Winston P. Wilson Championship Match April 27 at Camp Robinson, Ark. The team competes in regional and national competitions that contain multi-gun, reflexive and long distance shooting matches using unmodified military rifles with iron sights.



The Regional Counterdrug Training Academy in Meridian provides the most realistic training environment for effective counterdrug training. Over 8,000 law enforcement officers are trained at the RCTA yearly.

Directorate of Logistics

The Deputy Chief of Staff Logistics serves as Director of Logistics and principle advisor to the adjutant general, the Joint Forces Headquarters senior staff and the National Guard Bureau Army Directorate on all matters of logistical functions within the JFH, less aviation support activities and those functions which fall under the purview of the United States Property and Fiscal Office. This directorate develops policies, prepares budgets, and prioritizes logistics requirements to meet mission goals and objectives.

The director serves as a member of the state’s Program Budget Activity Committee, maximizing readiness through analysis of requirements and assessment of impacts in adjusting allocation of federal funds between accounts. The DOL plans, programs, coordinates and directs the activities of logistics functions that include supply, services, maintenance and transportation. Ensures resource requirements are identified, documented and defended both within the state and on the national level in response to requirements established by the Chief, Army Logistics of the NGB Army Directorate.

Logistics is the art and science of planning and carrying out the movement and maintenance of military forces. In its most comprehensive sense, it is those aspects or military operations that deal with design, development, acquisition, storage, distribution, maintenance, evacuation, and disposition of materiel; transport of personnel; acquisition or construction, maintenance, operation and disposition of facilities; acquisition of furnishings of services; and medical and health service support.

Logistics occasionally referred to as “combat service support”, must address highly uncertain conditions. While perfect forecasts are rarely possible, forecast models can reduce uncertainty about what supplies or services will be needed, where and when they will be needed or the best way to provide them.

The DOL/J4 directorate, reported over \$48 million in federal funds for goods, services and supplies for the Mississippi National Guard for FY 2012.



Local Purchase Contracts.....	3,487,010
Supplies & Equipment	3,717,573
Repair Parts	10,235,061
Support of OCO Operations.....	1,066,405
QLOG/GSA Vehicles	1,428,265
Region Calibration Lab	534,200
RSMS/Truck Rebuild.....	25,989,797
Reset.....	622,500
Fuel	1,792,061
Total Economic Effect	\$48,872,872

United States Property & Fiscal Office

The United States Property and Fiscal Office (USPFO) provides Federal contracting and audit support to both the Mississippi Air and Army National Guard. They also provide installation logistics, data processing, and financial support to the Mississippi Army National Guard.

In FY 2012, the USPFO was responsible for administrative control, financial planning, accounting and reporting for approximately \$685 million in Federal funds that generated approximately 800,000 financial transactions. Of the \$685 million, \$4.1 million was in support of the MSNG Youth Challenge Program.

In FY 2012, the USPFO continued to support the Global War on Terrorism with approximately \$35 million in supplies and/or services over and above normal day-to-day operating costs at the Department of the Army's Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center (CSJFTC).

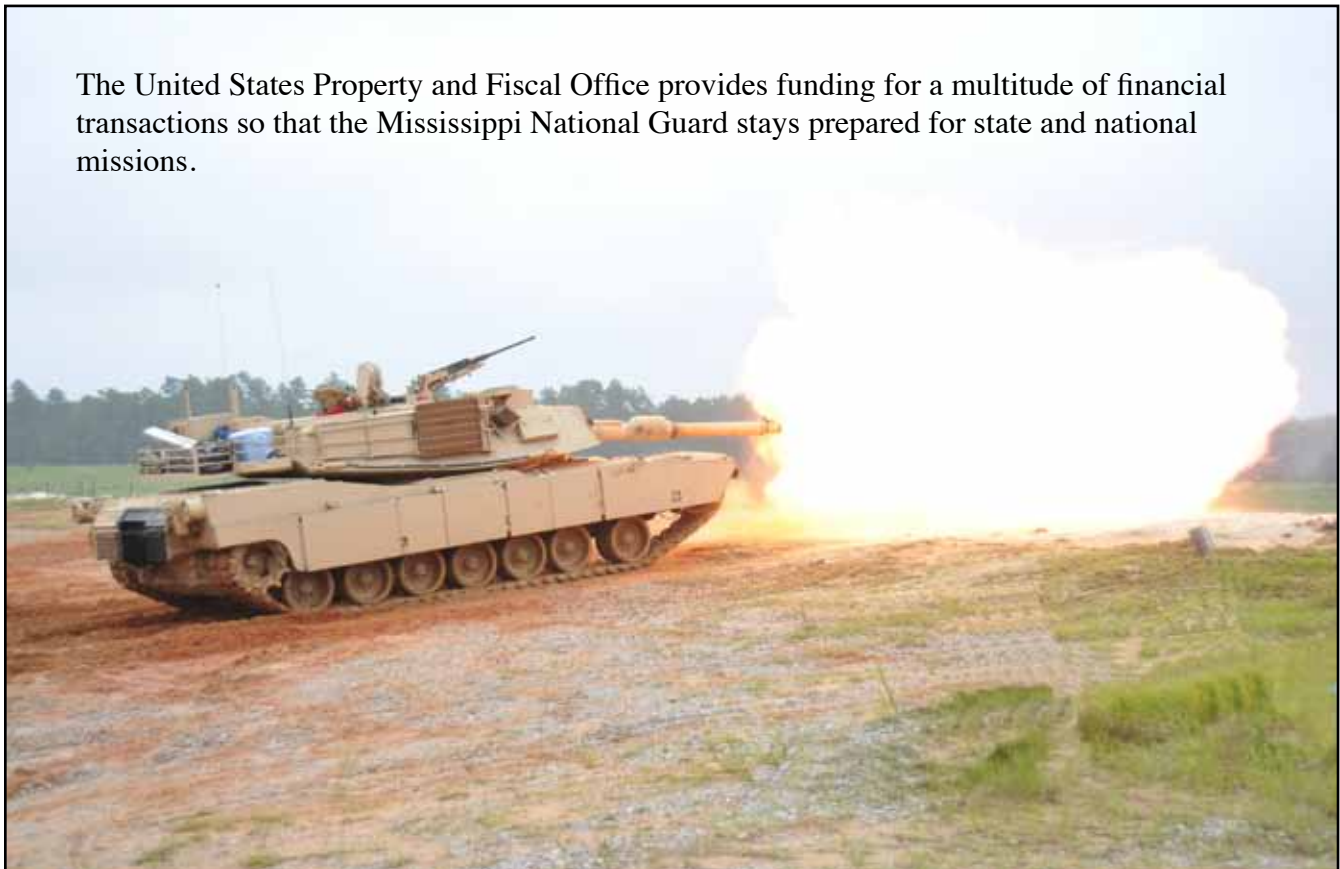
This office awarded 1572 contracts for approximately \$120 million in contracts for both the MSARNG & MSANG. Our Purchasing and Contracting Division also oversaw the Government Purchase Card program where 14,300 transactions were completed for a total of approximately \$14 million. The Audit Division completed 44 engagements during FY

2012 with approximately \$875 thousand in potential monetary benefits.

During FY2012, the Data Processing Section has upgraded all of its computer servers from individual stand-a-longs to virtualized servers reducing the number and saving time and money in maintenance and overall downtime. This past year has been very challenging with the introduction of the GFEBS accounting system. In order to successfully convert to the new system, we have upgraded all of our computer programs increasing security and certificate identification to ensure any and all risks are covered and we have migrated over 85% of the USPFO user computers in order to comply with the current NGB guidelines.

FY 2012 was again a challenging and very successful year for the USPFO. With a proactive attitude, our dedicated employees continued to search for more effective and efficient ways to serve our customers. The USPFO will continue to be good stewards of our Federal funding while always protecting the interest of the Federal government, the MSNG, and the taxpayers.

The United States Property and Fiscal Office provides funding for a multitude of financial transactions so that the Mississippi National Guard stays prepared for state and national missions.



Construction and Facilities Management

The Construction and Facilities Management Office is responsible for construction, maintenance, and repair of all Mississippi Army National Guard facilities. Responsibility includes 83 readiness centers, 33 logistical and maintenance facilities, three aviation support facilities and the Theater Aviation Group depot. The CFMO is also responsible for maintenance and construction support to two National Guard training sites, Camps Shelby and McCain. Real property assets of the Mississippi Army National Guard include over 1,800 structures totaling over 6.6 million square feet and over 147,000 acres of lands.

Functional branches within the CFMO are Planning & Programming, Design & Construction Management, Resource Management, and Facilities Management. Highly professional civilians and Soldiers staff these branches to provide facilities support and services to the MSARNG.

The construction, acquisition, and sustainment of modern, well-maintained facilities is a key component in supporting well-trained Soldiers that can respond to a range of missions, from natural disasters and state emergencies to serving our nation at war. In 2012, the Army National Guard facilities program focused on sustainment of existing facilities and construction or modernization of only those

key facilities not otherwise available or required to support readiness.

Real property operations and maintenance (federal) funding used in FY 12 was approximately \$39 million. These funds were used primarily for sustainment maintenance to the existing asset inventory, salaries for direct support employees, contracted services, and minor construction (less than \$750,000) projects.

During FY 12, construction of operational readiness training complex barracks began at Camp Shelby with a \$52 million Military Construction appropriation. Also awarded in 2012, at \$8.4 million, was the construction project to construct a deployment processing center at Camp Shelby.

State funds used in 2012 to support facilities maintenance totaled about \$2.1 million. The funds were used in conjunction with federal funds to support maintenance, repair, salaries, utilities, and supplies at readiness centers. Readiness centers require a 25% state matching share for new work and a 50% matching share for maintenance, repair, and utilities.

Environmental Directorate

The Environmental Directorate provides compliance, natural resources and cultural resources services for the Mississippi National Guard. The annual budget for the Environmental Directorate was \$2.4 million in FY 2012. The compliance section completed annual inspections on all armories, training sites, and maintenance shops for compliance with all state and federal environmental laws. The compliance section also supervised the assessment of three sites through the Military Munitions Response Program as well as completion of an Operational Range Assessment of Camp McCain. Multiple permits for construction and ongoing operations were submitted in FY 2012 throughout the state of Mississippi. The compliance section also developed and executed a comprehensive Stormwater Management course for first-line supervisors for all aviation support facilities, Camp Shelby and Camp McCain in order to reduce storm water pollution.

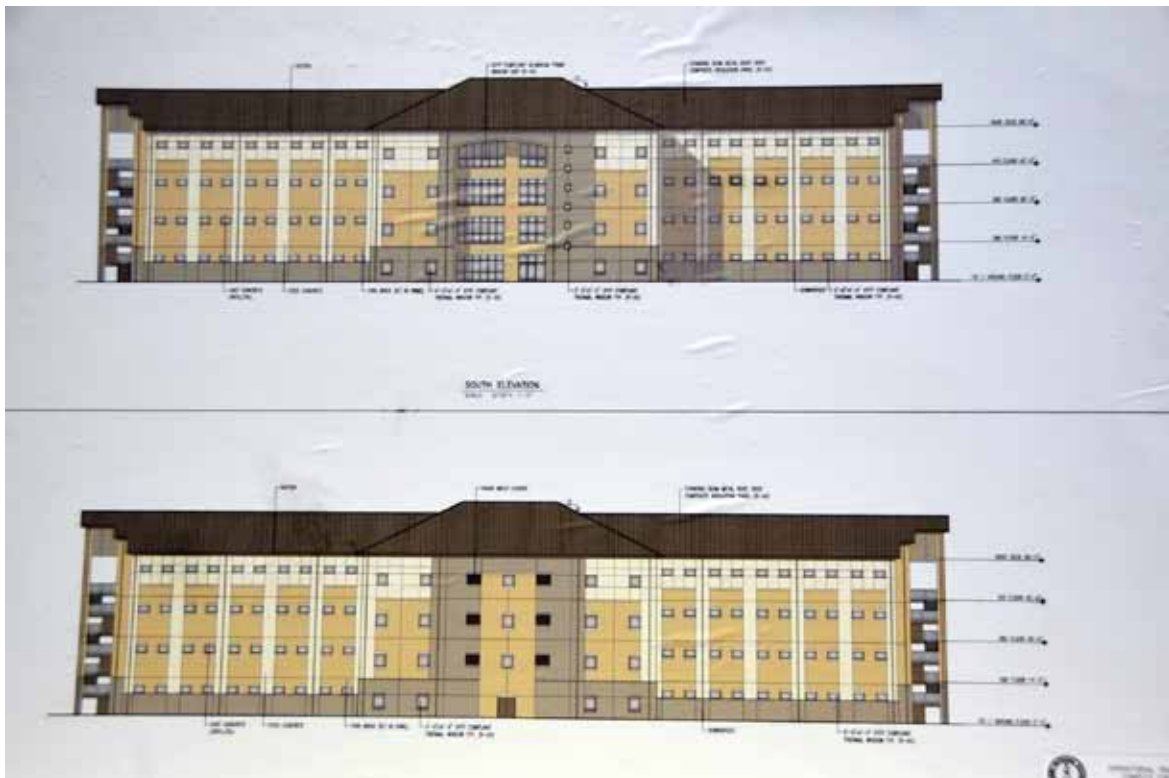
The Environmental Directorate is also preparing two Environmental Assessments in support of future military construction projects as well as National Environmental Protection Act documentation for dozens of smaller projects throughout Mississippi. The natural resources section completed several key agreements in FY 2012 that will greatly assist in management of threatened and endangered species at Camp Shelby. The Directorate completed a Stewardship Agreement with the USFS that



outlines a seven-year plan for longleaf habitat restoration and improvement at Camp Shelby and within the Desoto National Forest. This is the first agreement of its kind that simultaneously benefits habitat restoration and military training requirements. The Natural Resource Program of the Mississippi National Guard was recognized during the 2012 Environmental Security Awards as being one of the top three Natural Resources programs in the National Guard. The MSNG Cultural Resources program placed first overall in the National Guard and was recognized for its public outreach and educational efforts.



The first shovels of dirt begin construction of the new four-story Operational Readiness Training Complex within the cantonment area at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center. This new building, and others to be built in the future, are designed to meet all requirements to house, feed, train and administrate Soldiers.



Safety Directorate

The goal of the safety office is to facilitate a strong, ready, healthy, and safe fighting force. The safety office received a federal budget of \$95,600 during training year 2012. The safety office uses the money to help eliminate or reduce accidents, illnesses, and injuries to Mississippi National Guard personnel, state, and federal employees through force protection measures. Funding is also used to promote safety through incentives and awards.

The safety office conducted in excess of 105 surveys, evaluations, and inspections during this period. All inspections, surveys, and evaluations are accomplished in a training atmosphere and discrepancies are corrected on the spot if possible. An out-briefing is then conducted and copies of the reports are left with the Administrative Officers and Facilities managers.

All safety programs are checked to be in accordance with Army and National Guard policies and regulations. The safety office conducts State Safety and Occupational Health Council meetings on a quarterly basis, and the Explosive Safety Council meets biannually under the direction of the safety office.

The vision of this office is to properly train commanders and Safety Officers/Noncommissioned Officers in the field and enables them to manage their safety

programs.

A comprehensive safety program is in effect for all annual training periods at Camp Shelby and Camp McCain and safety briefings and meetings are scheduled for all units. The state safety office also visits units in the field and conducts random safety evaluations and helps make on the spot corrections.

There are numerous safety courses required for National Guardsmen and Department of Defense civilians. State employees are also encouraged to complete these courses. . Site visits are conducted to ensure full-time personnel are training on this system.

National Guard Bureau has increased its emphasis not only on the requirements commanders are to undertake in their daily on duty safety programs but also is developing new tools and programs to improve the safety of Soldiers and civilians while off duty and away from the workplace with their families.

Judge Advocate General

The Judge Advocate General directorate provides a number of services for the Mississippi National Guard. In addition to being combat trained Soldiers and Airmen, the Judge Advocates (who must also be licensed attorneys) serve as legal advisors to the commanders and staff members of the National Guard units. Some Judge Advocate serve their command in specialty jobs such as military prosecutors, trial defense attorneys, administrative law attorneys, contract attorneys or operational law advisors. Judge Advocates also provide legal assistance (such as preparing Wills and Powers of Attorneys) to soldiers of the Guard.

In 2012, Judge Advocates assisted with a number of mobilizations all across Mississippi. Every mobilized service member in the Mississippi National Guard received the opportunity to speak directly with a Judge Advocate and obtain a personalized Will and Power of Attorney, in addition to receiving legal advice on matters pertinent to the particular mobilization. Topics included the Service Members Civil Relief Act, Law of War, Rules of Engagement and the Uniform Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act.

Judge Advocates also provided legal support in response to Hurricane Isaac that occurred in August of

2012. This ranged from Rules for Use of Force briefings to reviewing claims and contracts.

In March, the Judge Advocates conducted the State's annual Judge Advocate General Legal Education course in Jackson. Col. Tom Serrano from the National Guard Bureau Judge Advocate General directorate was our featured speaker on ethics. Additionally, we conducted a panel discussion on the court-martial of senior officials.

This year also brought the safe return of Lt. Col. Lee Thaggard serving in Afghanistan with Special Operations Command-South and Capt. Jason Bayles serving in Kuwait with the 1108th Theater Aviation Sustainment Maintenance Group. These lawyers served their units honorably and received numerous accolades.

Over 1,300 legal assistance matters were completed during this past year and five military justice matters were handled by Judge Advocates. Over 30 claims were also processed through the JAG office.

The year 2012 also brought the retirement of Maj. Gary Rikard who served with distinction for over 23 years at the MSNG.

State Aviation Directorate

The Mississippi Army National Guard Aviation Program continued to rise to the challenges at home and abroad in another busy year in 2012. Domestically, our UH-60 Blackhawk and LUH-72 Lakota helicopters were utilized on State Active Duty during Hurricane Isaac operations. Tupelo's Company C, 1-114th General Support Aviation Battalion deployed and continues to fly LUH-72 Lakota helicopters in support of the U.S. Border Patrol along the Southwest border in Laredo, Texas. The 185th Theater Aviation Brigade supported an exercise with Africa Command in Germany and the State Partnership Program with Uzbekistan. Support to the Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center continued throughout the year with water bucket and medical evacuation coverage in support of the



Helicopters are on display at Camp Shelby during Retiree Day. Pictured in top photo is the LUH-72 Lakota, below is the UH-60 Blackhawk.

mobilization of deploying units. The Unmanned Aerial System facility at Camp Shelby continued to provide a vital role in the training and new equipment fielding plans for new UAS Shadow units across the country.

In the defense of our nation, the MSARNG Aviation community witnessed the return of the 1-185th Assault Helicopter Battalion from Operation New Dawn in the fall of 2011. Gulfport's Theater Aviation Support Maintenance Group returned from Operation Enduring Freedom in the late summer of 2012. The unit was stationed in Kuwait, but supported the war fight by providing aviation maintenance support in both the drawdown from Iraq and Afghanistan theaters. In August 2012, our CH-47D Chinook helicopters from Meridian's Company B, 1-111th GSAB also returned from a unique deployment that included Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan all in a single tour.

The new year will bring new deployment preparations, mobilizations, and the return of Magnolia Guard aviators and aircraft. Troop A, 1-149th Attack Battalion completed transformation to AH-64D Apaches in Tupelo last year and is scheduled for mobilization in the summer of 2014. A C-23 Sherpa fixed-wing crew from Company I, 1-185th Aviation will deploy in the late fall of 2012 in a supporting role in Egypt. The 2-185th Airfield Operations Battalion is scheduled to mobilize in support of OEF in the winter of 2014. Jackson's Company F, 1-171st GSAB are scheduled to return from Afghanistan from a medical evacuation mission in January 2013.

Modernization continued in the MSARNG as the fielding of additional LUH-72 Lakota Air Ambulance Helicopters was completed with the fielding of a new unit: Company D, 2-151st GSAB in Tupelo, Miss.

Change is a constant thing in MSARNG Aviation. As aircraft, personnel, authorizations, and mobilizations consistently impact the program, the overall state of readiness continues to be high as our air crews continue to rise to new challenges both domestically and overseas. The coming year will bring over 20 new aviators back from flight training in order to fill warrant and commissioned officer roles in the support of future challenges. Various exercises that focus on the mission of aviation at both home and abroad are scheduled throughout the year as well as continuous aircrew readiness training aimed at maintaining MSARNG aviation "Above the Best."

Inspector General

The Inspector General serves as a personal staff officer to the Adjutant General and is charged with inquiring into and periodically reporting on the discipline, efficiency, economy, morale, training, and readiness throughout the command. These duties encompass the Army and Air National Guard throughout the state. Additionally, the Inspector General works with Inspector General Staffs for the Department of the Army, Department of the Air Force, Department of Defense, First Army, National Guard Bureau, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center and deployed Inspector General teams in Kuwait and Afghanistan.

The Inspector General functions as an extension of the eyes, ears, and conscience of the commander. The Inspector General and his staff perform this mission through four primary functions: Assistance, Inquiries/Investigations, Inspections and Teaching and Training. The scope of Inspector General activities include support to the Commander, Soldiers and Airmen, family members, Department of the Army civilians, employers, retirees, and others requiring assistance with an Army or Air Force matter

within the purview of the Inspector General system.

This year the Inspector General's office has been very active in support of operational deployments and mobilizations, conducting special inspections, conducting staff assistance visits to units within the state, inquiring into areas of special interest to the command, and providing daily support to the commander and thousands of Soldiers, Airmen, and families of the command. The Inspector General's Office led a review and update of the Command Inspection Workbook and continue to improve its website to provide better service to the Soldiers and Airmen of the Mississippi National Guard. The IG and his staff also serve on several committees and councils with the goal of improving the overall readiness of the command.

The Mississippi National Guard Inspector General's Office provided assistance to over 200 personnel and completed 140 assistance cases totaling in excess of 388 man hours during Training Year 2012. Additionally, the IG personnel were involved in over 95 inspections or visits to various readiness centers throughout the state.



The Mississippi National Guard's Inspector General takes care of a number of complaints from various sources. Addressing the issues are from left Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Eric Ritter, Col. Bill Johnson (IG), and Lt. Col. Gerald May.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Office administers and manages the full-time support program for the adjutant general and provides advice on full-time personnel matters, plans and policies. HRO assists Army and Air National Guard commanders and managers in attaining mission readiness by providing human resources advice, guidance, support and services.

The function of the HRO is military (Active Guard/ Reserve) management, federal technician management, Equal Employment Opportunity, Defense Civilian Personnel Data System and Resource Management. This office employs a number of military technicians and staff.



Maj. Laketter Cannon functions as the state's Equal Opportunity Officer with the Human Resources Office.

Recruiting and Retention

The Recruiting and Retention Battalion serves as the primary advisor to the senior leadership of the state on all matters pertaining to strength management. The command develops, implements, and monitors the State Strength Maintenance Program based on guidance from the National Guard Bureau and state leadership. The command has a three tenet mission: recruiting, retention and attrition management.

The battalion met 2012 End Strength mission of 9,678 ending the year with a strength of 9,883 and assessed 1,116 new officers into the Mississippi Army National Guard. The battalion achieved a Retention Success Rate goal of 84% and a Duty Military Occupational Skill Qualification of 85% for 2012.

Attrition management is accomplished through the Recruit Sustainment Program. RSP prepares Mississippi warriors with the Pre-Basic Combat Training skills necessary to complete Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training at the five major U.S. Army Training sites. The MSARNG conducts RSP training at seven sites throughout the state. The preparation and battle hand off of these troops to MSARNG units produces Citizen Soldiers that are ready to meet the state and federal missions required for the MSARNG.

Some of the highlights for the fiscal year were the partnerships established with the Governor's Job Fair Team, Mississippi High School Activities Association Cross Country Championships, the Mississippi Association of Community Colleges, and the Mississippi Department of Adult Education. These partnerships are valuable investments in helping Mississippi citizens and Soldiers reach their educational goals and improve Mississippi's work force.



Maj. Bryan Olier prepares to give the oath of office to a new medical officer whose duties will include conducting pre-health assessments within the state of Mississippi.

State Comptroller's Office

The Directorate of State Resources' mission is to provide administrative and support services to the Mississippi Military Department; an agency of the State of Mississippi.

Both, state and federal funding, are combined to achieve the goals and missions of the Mississippi Military Department. The directorate has primary responsibility for management, control and administration of all state resources within the MMD agency. The major functional areas are Human Resources, Financial, Accounting, Payroll, Time and Attendance, Purchasing, Contracting, Budgeting, Administration of state employee travel and property.

The Mississippi Military Department state general funds are formally requested through the State Budgeting process annually. The requested amount of state funds of the Mississippi Military Department each fiscal year are managed with due care throughout the year to maximize efficiency.

In FY 2012, the National Guard Bureau, continued authorization to reimburse 50% of the 83 Readiness Centers' fiscal year operating costs, which are distributed to each readiness center (or armory) based upon fiscal need. This is paramount to our capability to operate and maintain our facilities each fiscal year.

During FY 2012, the state partnered with the federal government to support the continued mobilization operations located at the Camp Shelby Joint Training Center in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn.



Environmentalist study areas at Camp Shelby.



A drop zone is named in honor of a fallen Mississippi Soldier at Camp McCain.



Civilians are given a chance to see equipment first-hand at Camp Shelby.

Information Management Directorate

The Directorate of Information Management provides state of the art information technology services and equipment to the men and women of the Mississippi National Guard both Army and Air.

The DOIM provides administrative services, voice, video, networking, wireless communications including cellular and wireless two-way handheld devices, database management automation support and network security in support of operations both in peacetime and war. Services now provide data and voice connectivity via satellite. The MSNG units that are responsible for emergency operations now have access to the Governor's statewide radio network via push-to-talk 700mhz radios in addition to satellite phones. The commanders on the ground are equipped with redundant communication capabilities, this equipment was provided by the National Guard Bureau for providing reach back capability in the event traditional services are not available. The possibility of not being able to communicate at any given time is now unlikely.

Some improvements to the network that were accomplished in FY12, include upgrades to 90 readiness centers' voice capability where CISCO® Voice-Over IP was deployed in addition of wiring those locations with Category 6 wire to enhance capability of voice and data services. The DOIM office is currently deploying Microsoft 7 operating system software to replace VISTA operating systems on personal computers. Improvements made since FY 2008, which included the implementation of Common Access Cards for Cryptographic login, has become standard for all users, with some specific exceptions. Beginning in the fall of 2012, users will be migrated to Enterprise E-mail which will standardize all users of government e-mail servers. Data at rest, for data on these systems is now being configured so entire hard drive contents are encrypted which is a Department of Defense requirement.



Radio equipment is tested routinely by full-time personnel assigned to the Information Management Office.



Mississippi Air National Guard

186th Air Refueling Wing

From providing crucial eyes on surveillance in a war zone in Afghanistan to giving a helping airlift for the victims of Hurricane Sandy in the Northeast, the 186th Air Refueling Wing has been busy on a wide range of deployments.

The Air National Guard men and women with the wing have been doing yeoman's work for both the citizens of America and the fighting men and women battling insurgent and terrorist forces in Afghanistan.

For five years, crews of the RC-26 aircraft stationed at Key Field and manned by Air Guardsmen from the 186th have been flying important missions in Afghanistan in support of military operations.

For 64 straight months from classified locations the 45th Expeditionary Special Operations Squadron has continuously flown 24/7 operations amassing an incredible 42,000 combat hours and 9,400 sorties. Beginning with a core group of 66 Guardsmen from 11 states, the 45th took what was a niche counter-drug platform and turned it into an inexpensive and effective success story for manned ISR in theatre. These missions have saved countless lives and contributed to an equal number of successful operations that have stemmed the tide of insurgent activity.

The commander of the 45th Expeditionary Special Operations Squadron, Lt. Col. Scott Ritchie, said, "We press

forward day in and out with one purpose; to bring our guys home and ensure the bad guys don't go home. We love this aircraft and this mission and are willing to pass up other opportunities and promotions to shake the hand of a fellow aviator completing his 300th combat sortie. And we smile at the thought of flying with that brother in all of the hellish corners of the world."

One group of guardsmen just returned from a tour in Afghanistan and more will probably be deployed in the future as the conflict continues. There are only a few crews across the state and really in the nation that are qualified to operate the RC-26 platform and mission.

Most recently, crews of the C-27 Spartan transported ground equipment and personnel to New York supporting Hurricane Sandy relief efforts. This was the first actual domestic mission with the C-27J Spartan aircraft.

Air crews from Mississippi, Maryland and Ohio coordinated to perform the very first domestic relief operation by the C-27J. Power generators, HUMVEEs and transportation personnel from the 1484th Transportation Company, Ohio National Guard, were flown to Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, N.Y. to supplement the concentrated clean-up process.



A U. S. Army Humvee from the Ohio National Guard is unloaded from a Mississippi Air National Guard C-27J Spartan military transport aircraft on Stewart Air National Guard Base, Newburgh, NY, Nov. 3, 2012. The Humvee will be used to support the relief efforts of the New York National Guard in Brooklyn, NY, for the victims of Hurricane Sandy.

Mississippi Air National Guard personnel are on duty at home and overseas.



172nd Airlift Wing, Jackson

The Mississippi Air National Guard's 172nd Airlift Wing is recognized throughout the world for its mission capabilities and excellence. During the reporting period the wing performed vastly different missions to support local, state and overseas missions. The following is a listing of some of the missions:

- 172nd AW personnel participated in Clausell Elementary School Red Ribbon Week for the wing's adopted school.
- Held Family Day event at Thompson Field, Nov. 5 2011
- Flight to the North Pole – Dec. 15, 2011
- J.R.O.T.C flight at Thompson Field – Feb. 21, 2012
- Twenty six 172nd AW Security Forces personnel deployed to Afghanistan for a six-month deployment.
- Civic Leader event held at Thompson Field – Mar. 13, 2012.
- 172nd's Thompson Field was designated as a StormReady location by Mississippi Emergency Management Agency and the National Weather Service on April 5, 2012.

- The wing conducted a Medical Mobile Decontamination Exercise March 28-30, 2012
- All personnel of the wing participated in an Operational Readiness Exercise at Volk Field, Wisc. on June 2-9, 2012.
- The 172nd AW participated in an Environmental Safety and Operational Health Camp Assessment for a week July 23-27, 2012
- Another ORE at Volk Field was held Aug. 11-18, 2012
- Deployed personnel for support of Hurricane Isaac Relief Operations on Sept. 4, 2012.

172d Airlift Wing Economic Impact 2012

The following information relates to the economic impact of the 172nd AW's economic impact on the state:

- Economic Impact - \$181 Million
- Civilian Pay \$24,112,000 13%
- Military Pay \$46,248,412 27%
- Operations \$96,500,000 51%
- Indirect Jobs \$14,475,000 9%
- Membership Total: 939

Construction Projects Summary for FY 2012

- Facility & Aircraft Fire Protection \$2.5M
- Multi-Facility Energy Improvement Project \$1.4M
- Perimeter Road Paving Project \$650K
- Airfield Storm Drainage Improvement Project \$700K
- Apron & Taxiway Maintenance Project \$620K
- Bulk Fuel Storage Tank Maintenance Project \$450K

Operations Mission Summary for FY 2012

- National Guard Bureau Directed Missions: 60
- Air Mobility Command Directed Missions: 121
- Total Sorties Flown: 1,066
- Cargo Carried: 5,800
- Patients Carried: 6,382
- Total Flying Hours: 6,266 In addition to the many missions performed by the men and women of the 172nd Airlift Wing

FY 2012 - The



Year In Pictures





Mississippi Army National Guardsman Staff Sgt. Richard R. Williams competes in the Army's Best Warrior Competition for 2012. He won the titles of Best Warrior on the State and Regional levels and went on to compete with numerous other states' warriors in the Army Level competition.